

# Cosmology with the SKA Observatory



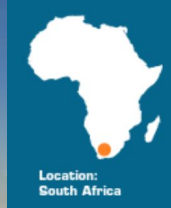
6ième colloque national Dark Energy

**Marta Spinelli**



Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

# The SKAO



**SKA-Mid**  
**350 MHz - 13.5 GHz**



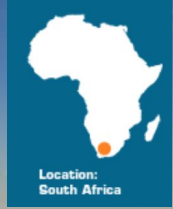
**SKA-Low**  
**50 MHz - 350 MHz**



credit: skatelescope.org



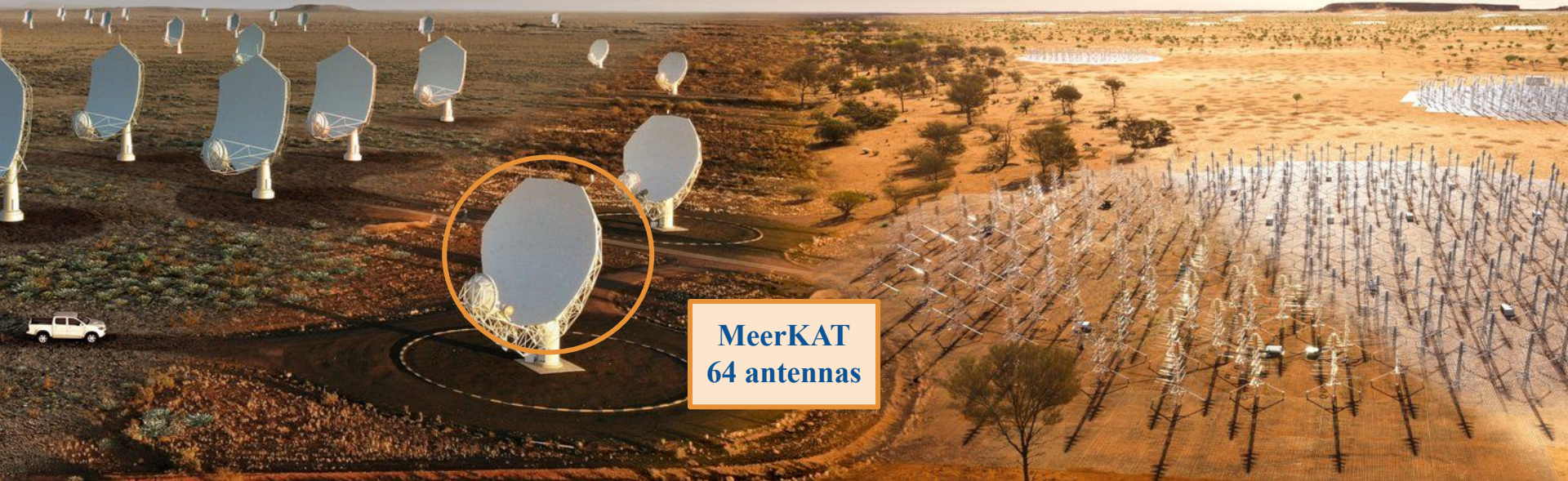
# The SKAO



**SKA-Mid**  
**350 MHz - 13.5 GHz**



**SKA-Low**  
**50 MHz - 350 MHz**



**MeerKAT**  
**64 antennas**



# The SKAO sky



*credit: skatelescope.org*

Marseille, 18 Nov 2022

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Marta Spinelli - ETH Zurich



# The SKAO sky

**Synchrotron radiation** due to electrons with relativistic velocities gyrate and radiate in the presence of magnetic fields.

**Free-Free radiation** produced by the deceleration of (typically) an electron when deflected by the presence of hot gas

coherent radio emission from **pulsars** (and other sources?)

**atomic** and **molecular transitions** from various celestial objects

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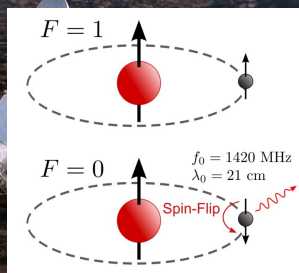
coherent radio emission from **pulsars** (and other sources?)

**atomic** and **molecular transitions** from various celestial objects



# The SKAO sky

**21cm (1420 MHz) line**  
of Neutral Hydrogen (HI)

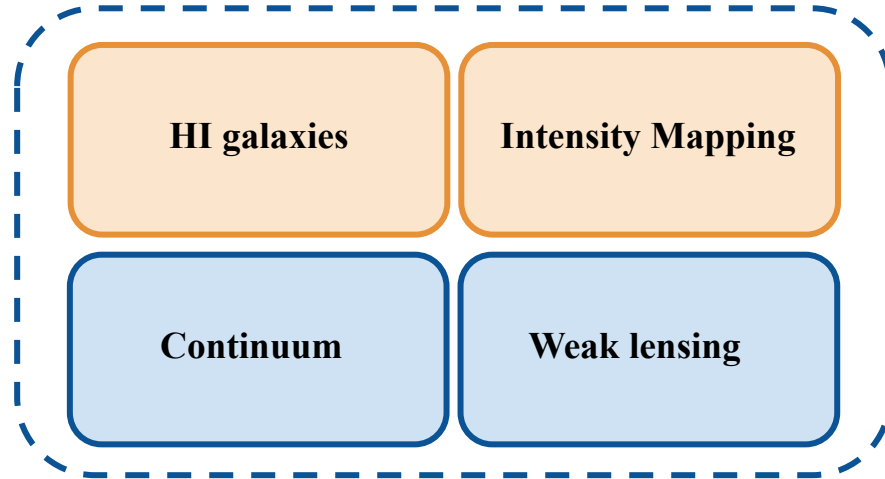


post-reionization

Epoch of Reionization

Cosmic Dawn

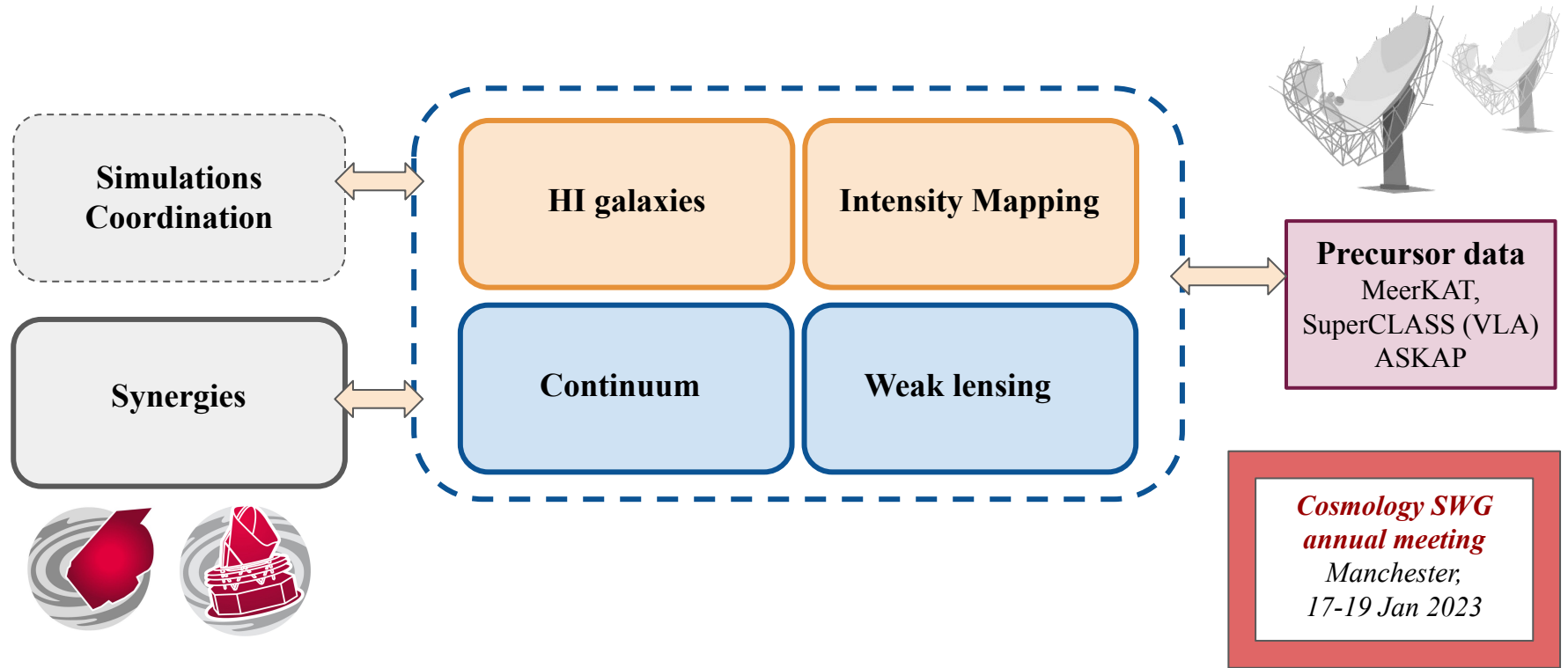
# Cosmology Science Working Group



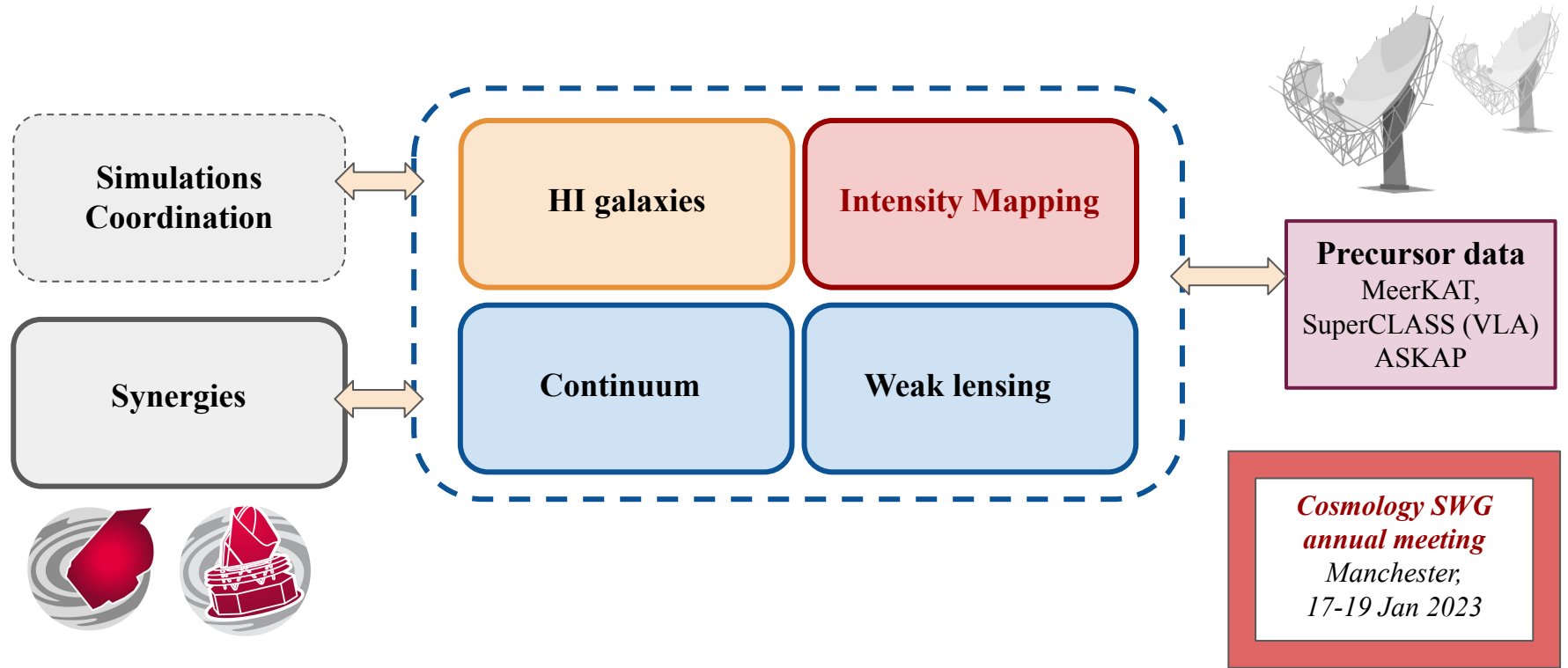
*SKA Red Book (2020)*



# Cosmology Science Working Group



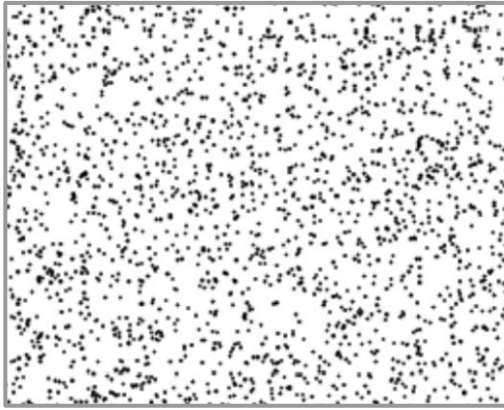
# Cosmology Science Working Group





# Intensity Mapping

*credit: A. Pourtsidou*

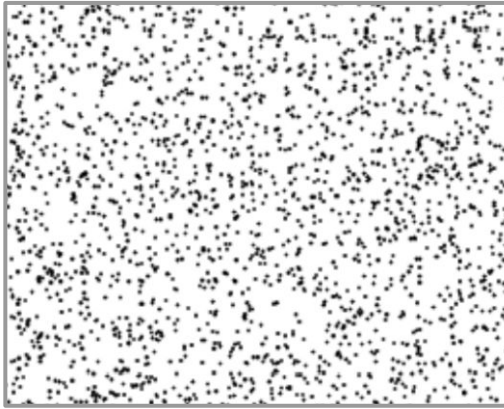


The distribution of **neutral Hydrogen** is a biased tracer of the **matter clustering** *similar to galaxy surveys*

In cosmology, **large scales** are fundamental

# Intensity Mapping

*credit: A. Pourtsidou*



The distribution of **neutral Hydrogen** is a biased tracer of the **matter clustering**  
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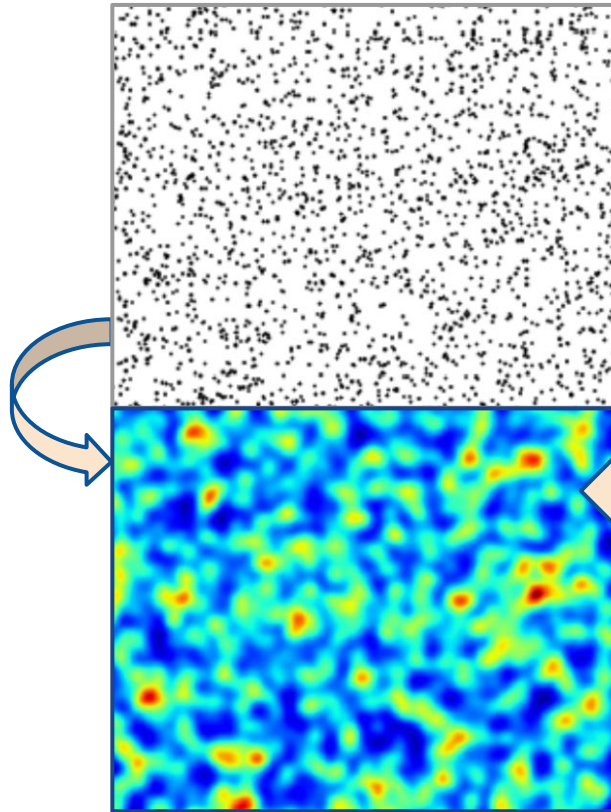
In cosmology, **large scales** are fundamental

**How can we efficiently observe cosmological volumes?**



# Intensity Mapping

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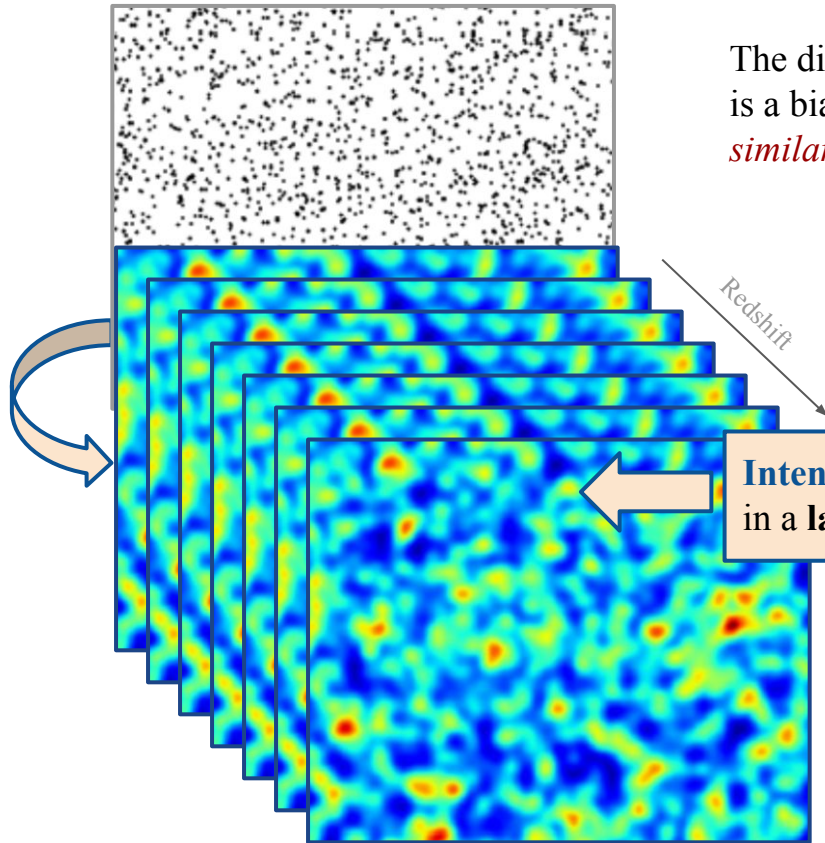
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**Intensity Mapping:** total intensity of the 21cm emission line in a **large pixel** (low spatial resolution)

# Intensity Mapping

credit: A. Pourtsidou



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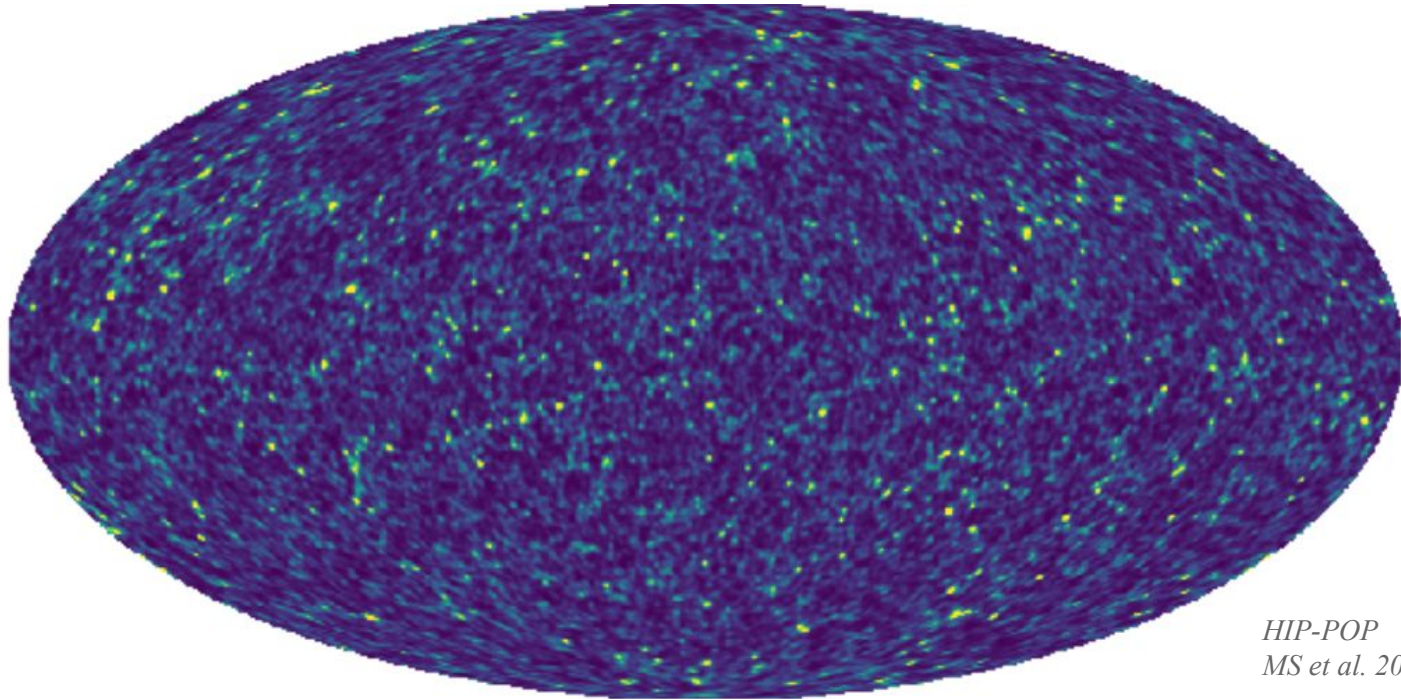
**Intensity Mapping:** total intensity of the 21cm emission line in a **large pixel** (low spatial resolution)

different frequencies,  
different  $z$   
**high spectral resolution**  
(tomography)

**Key cosmological probe**



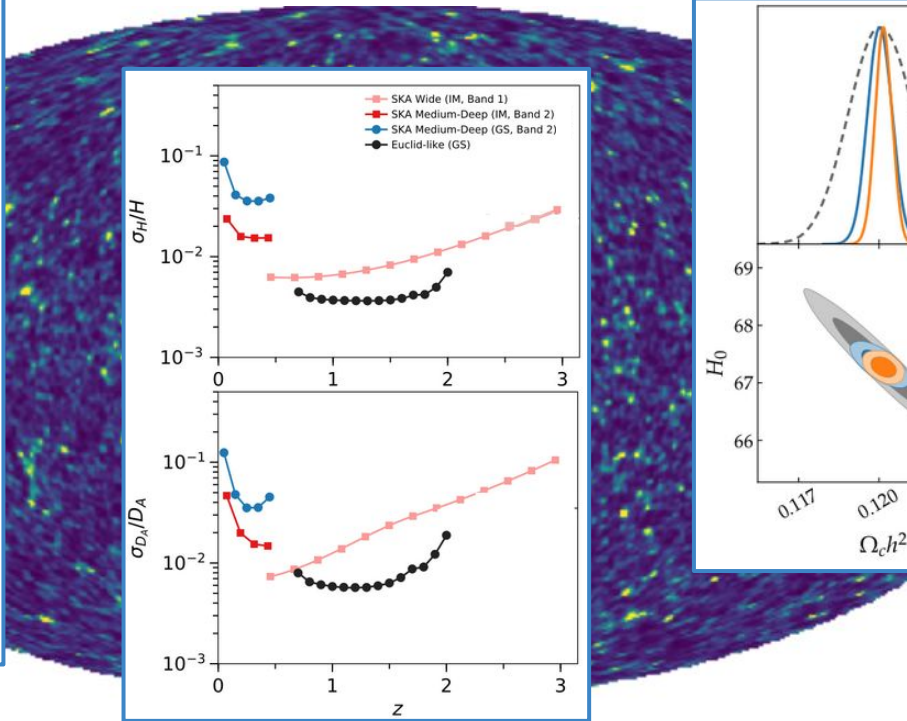
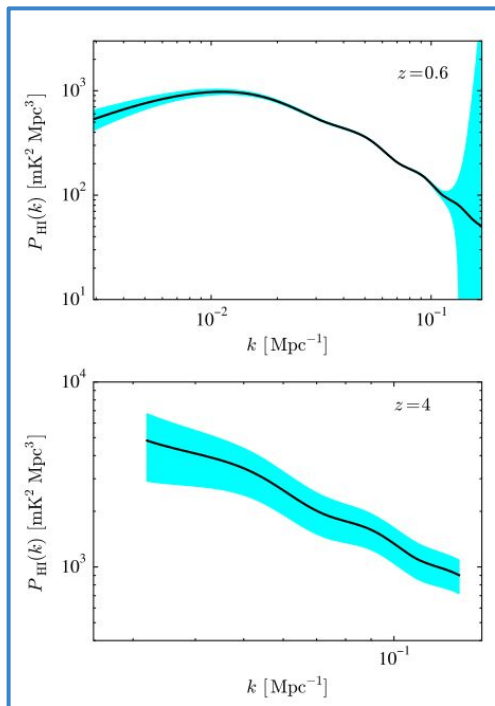
# Key cosmological probe



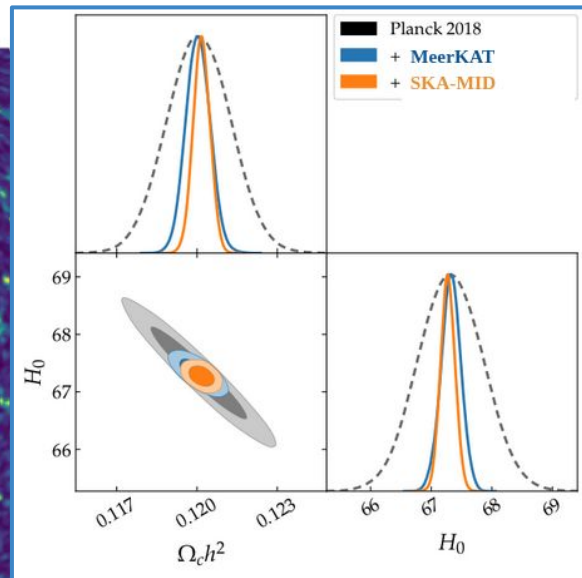
*HIP-POP*  
*MS et al. 2022*

# Key cosmological probe

SKA Red Book (2020)

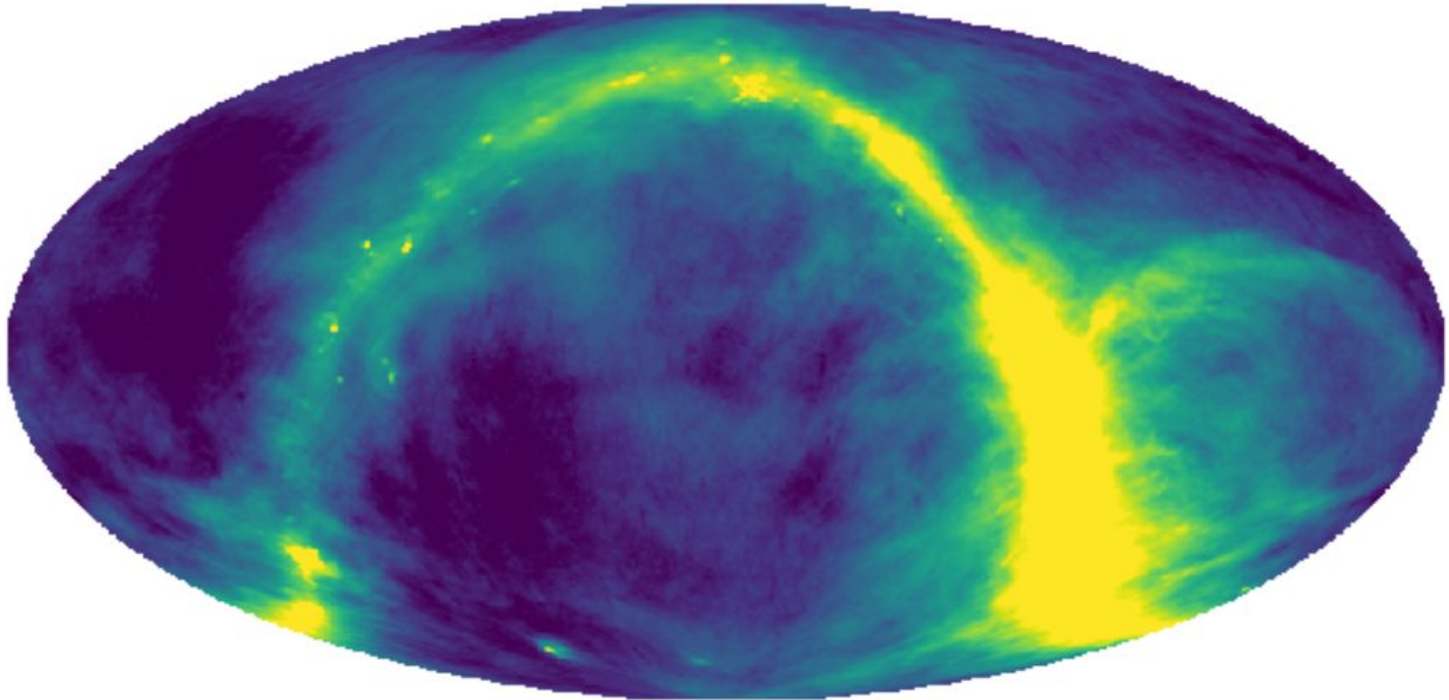


SKA Red Book (2020)



Berti, MS et al. 2022

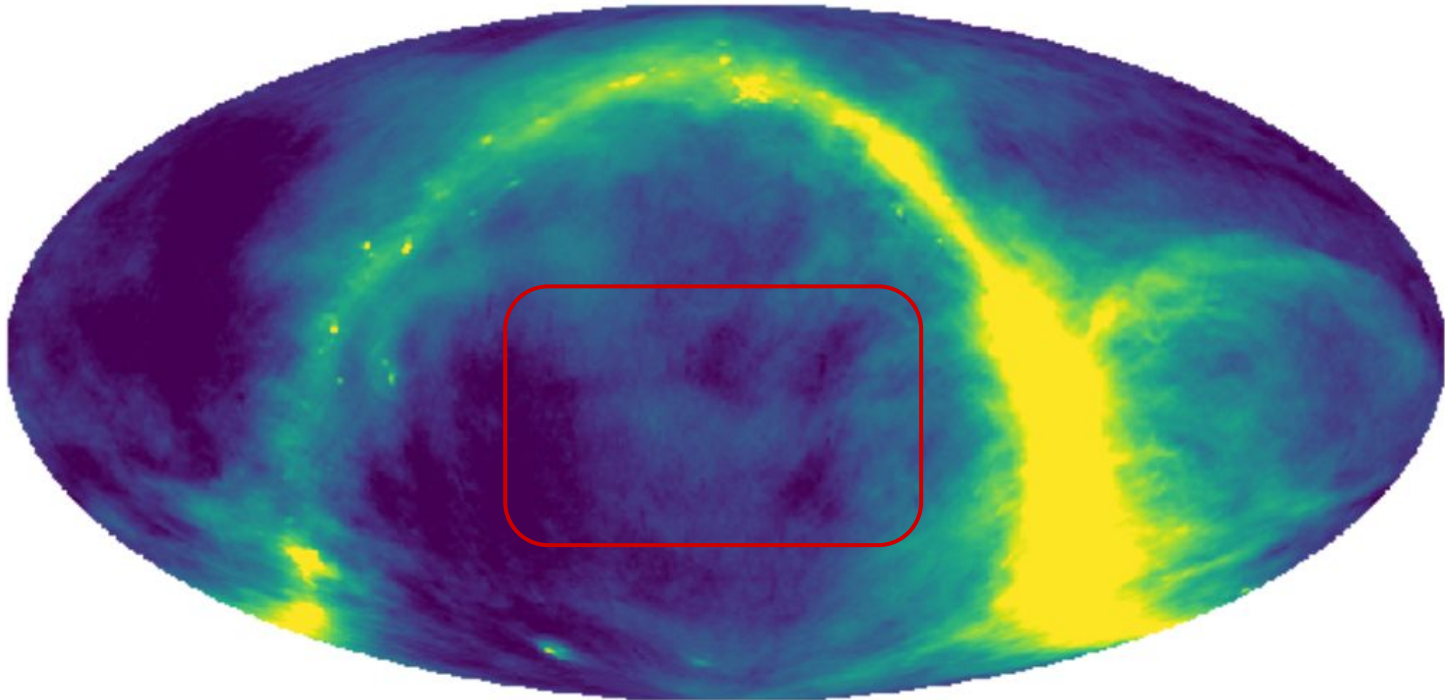
# The challenge of foregrounds



*adapted from Haslam et al. (1982)*

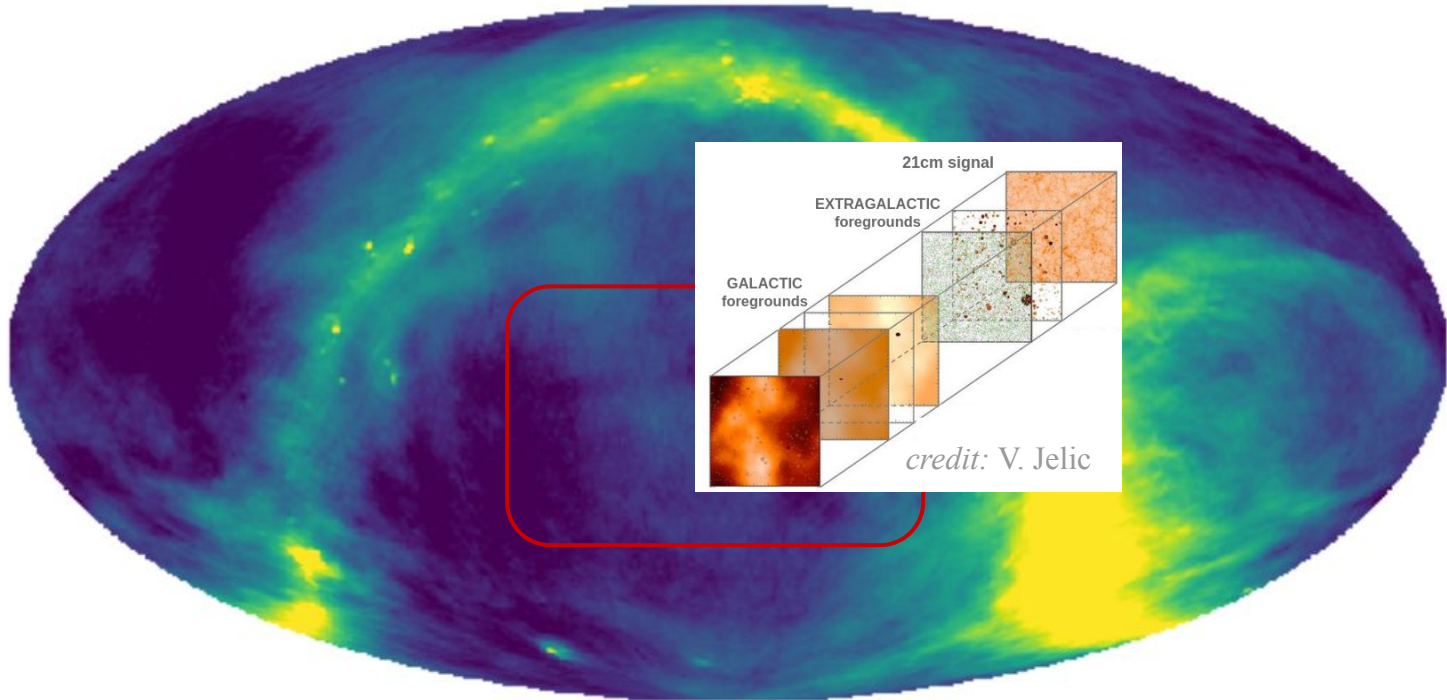


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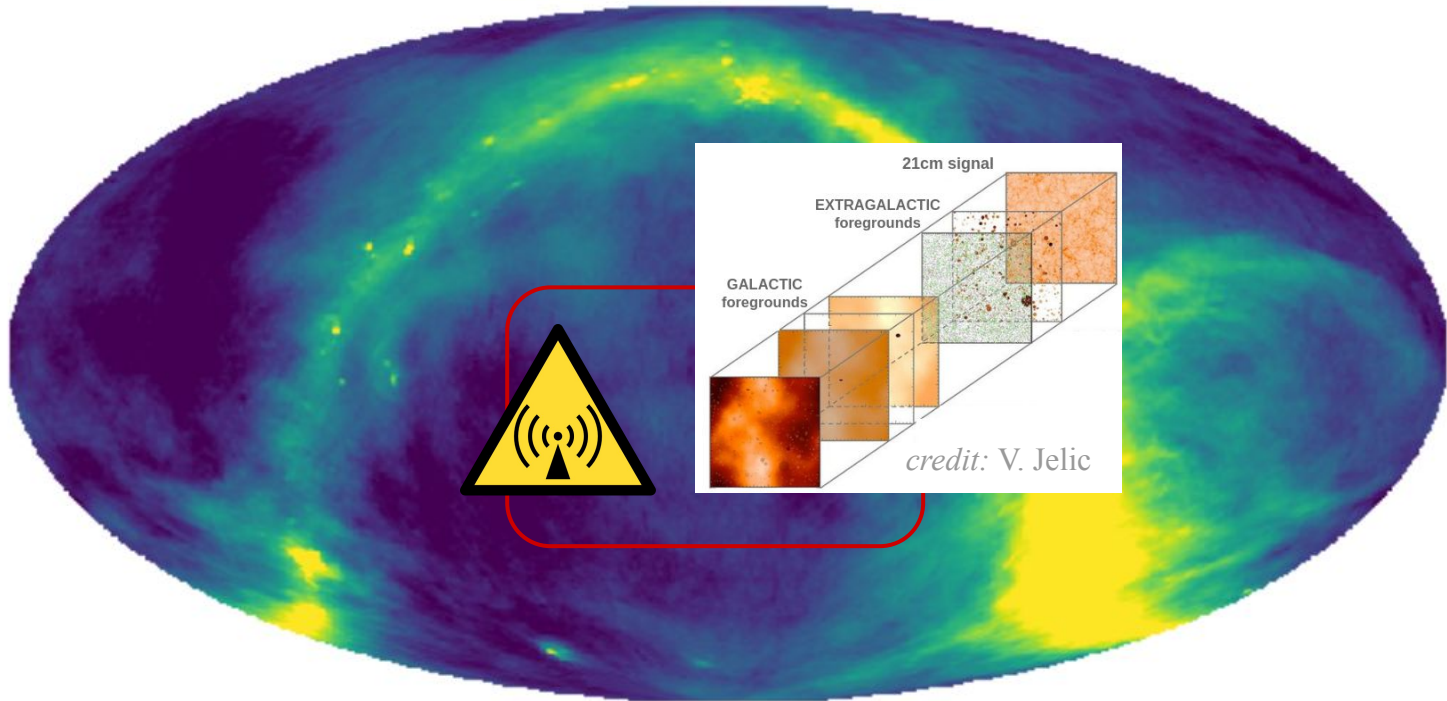
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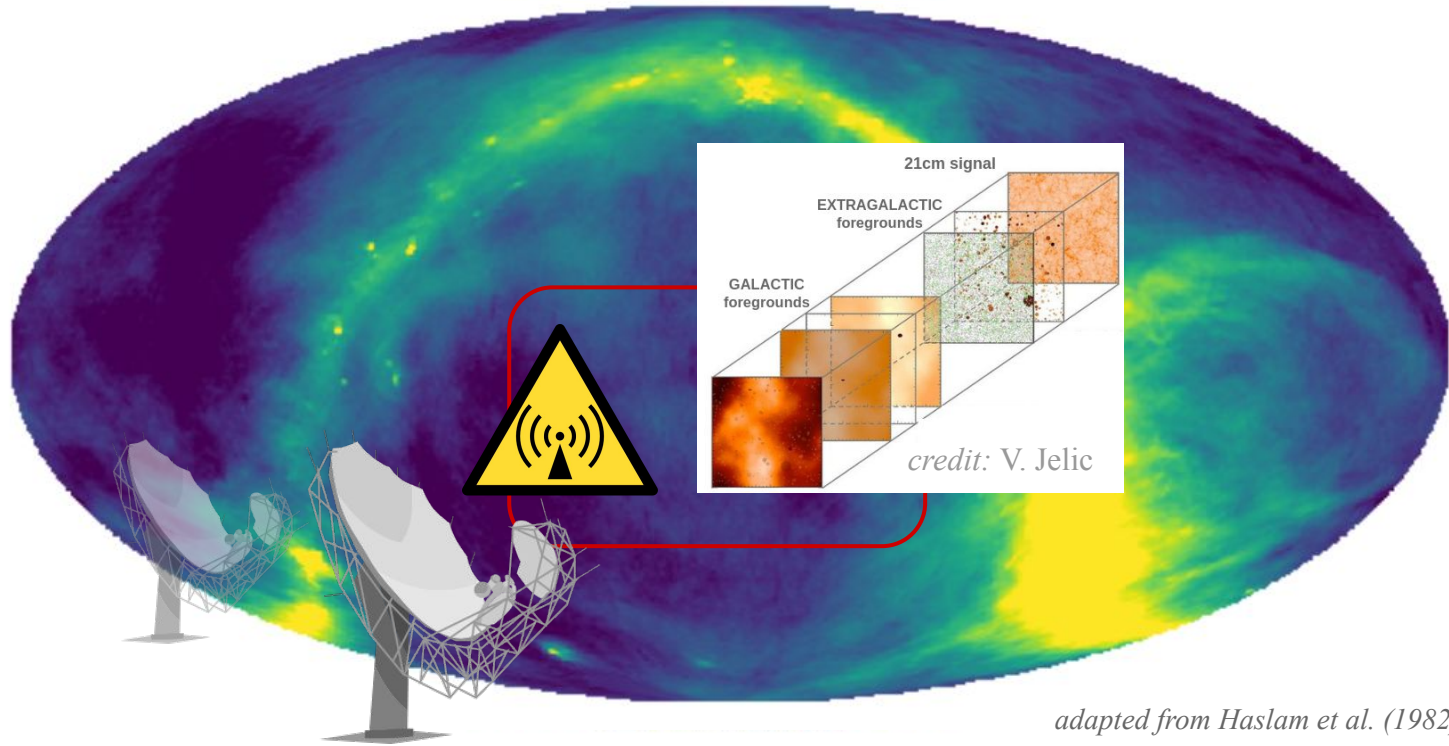
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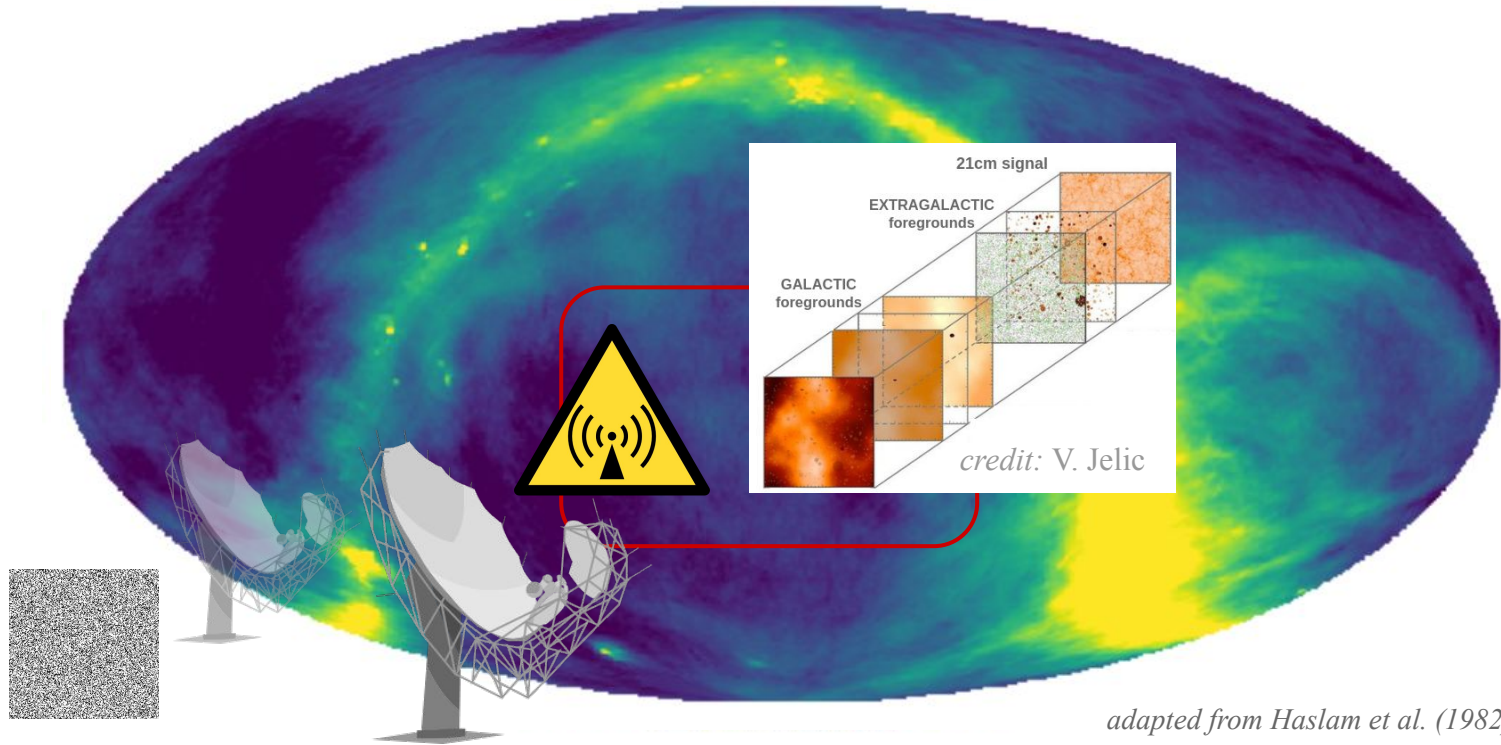
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# The challenge of foregrounds

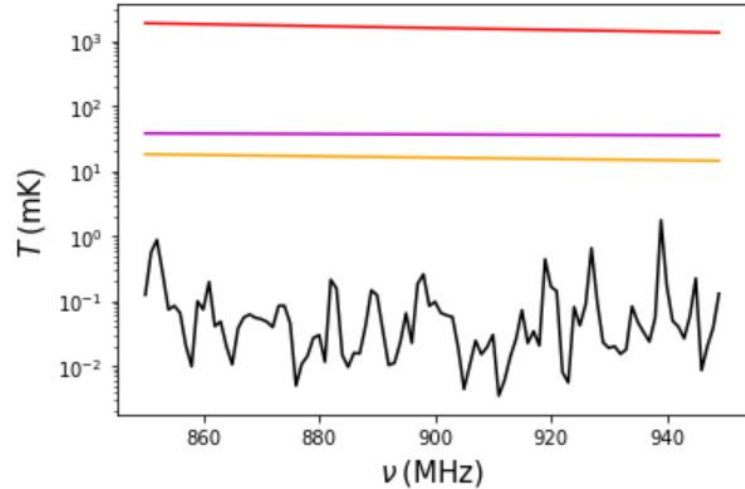
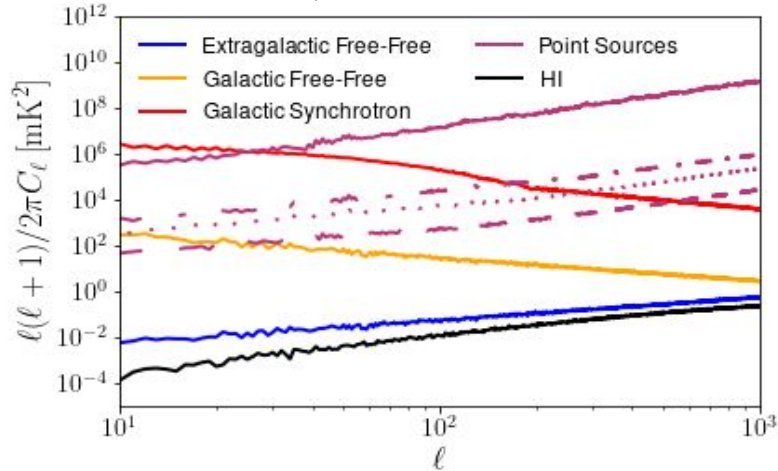


# The challenge of foregrounds



# Properties of the foregrounds

Matshawule, MS et al. 2021



- ❑ foregrounds are orders of magnitude **stronger** than the 21cm signal
- ❑ their frequency behaviour is **smooth** (highly correlated)

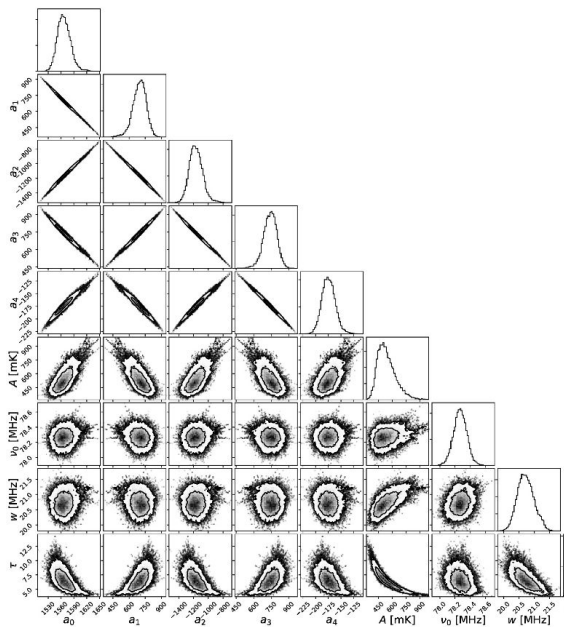
## Questions:

- ❑ Can the **properties of the foregrounds** be used to separate them from the pristine **21cm signal**?
- ❑ **Even if we add some realism to our simulations?** (beam response, noise, RFI, polarization leakage, ...)

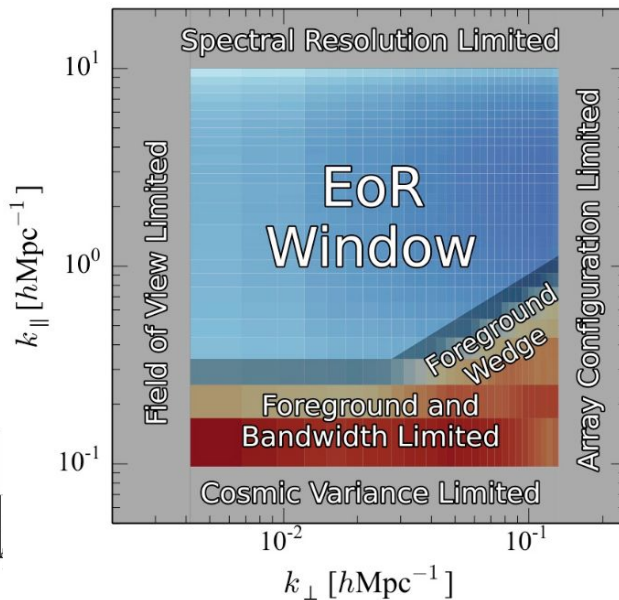


# Dealing with foregrounds

Various strategies: e.g. **modelling**, **avoidance** and **separation/cleaning**



Bowman et al. (2018)

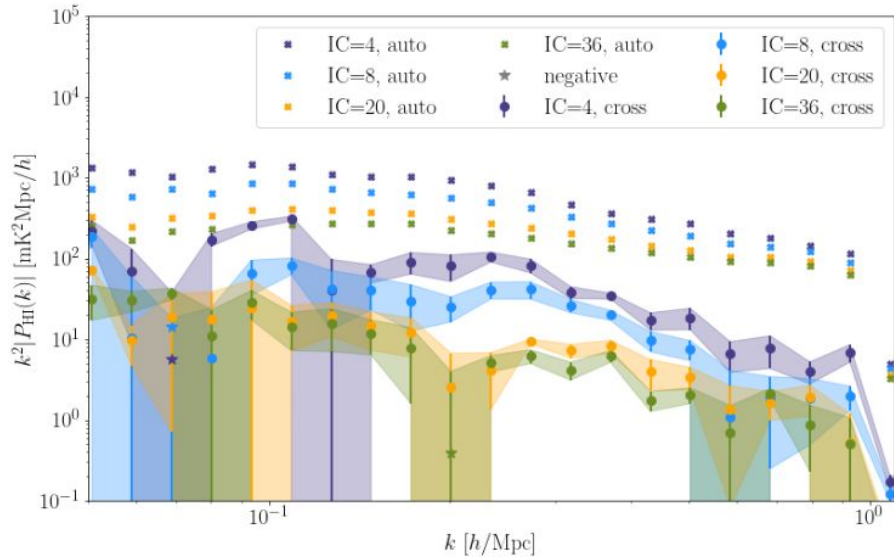


Liu et al. (2014)

separation/cleaning:  
PCA, kPCA, FastICA,  
GMCA, GPR, ML-GPR

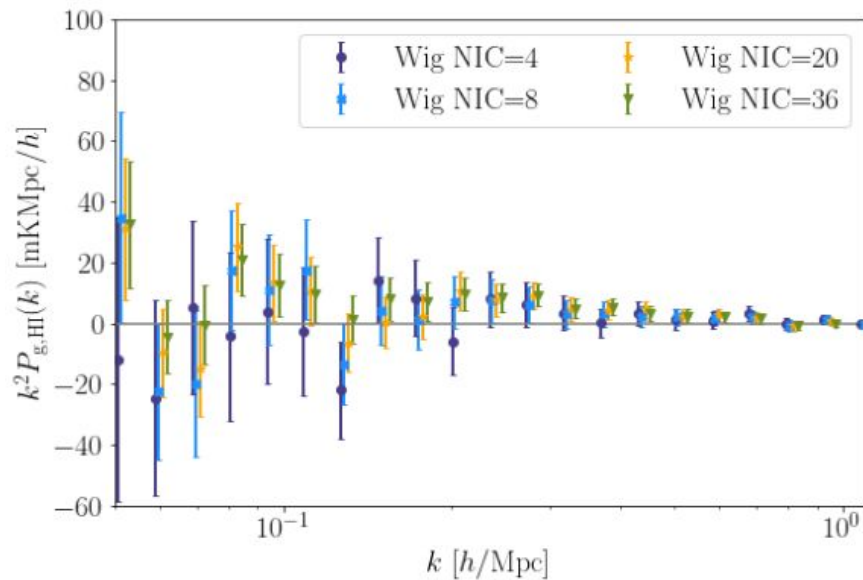
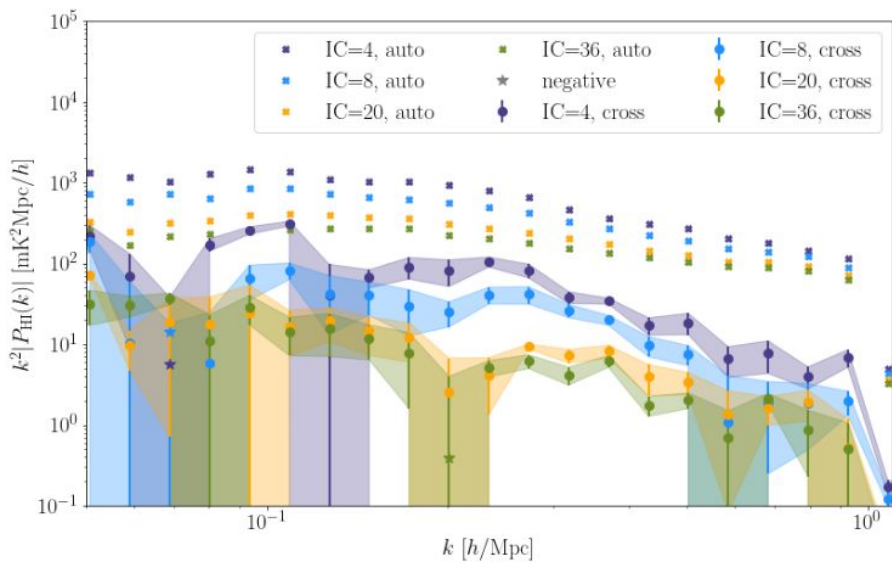
# With GBT data

Wolz et al. 2022



# With GBT data

Wolz et al. 2022

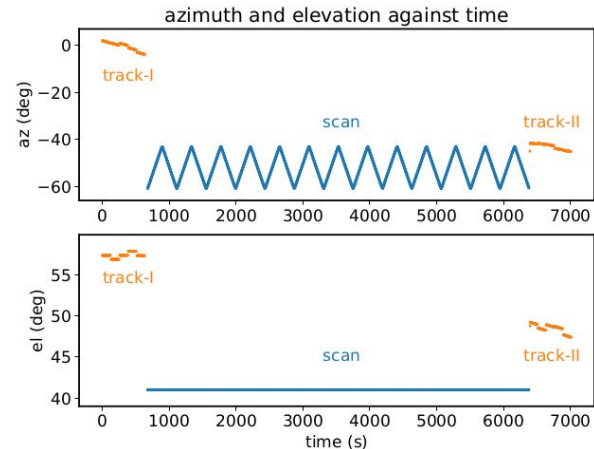
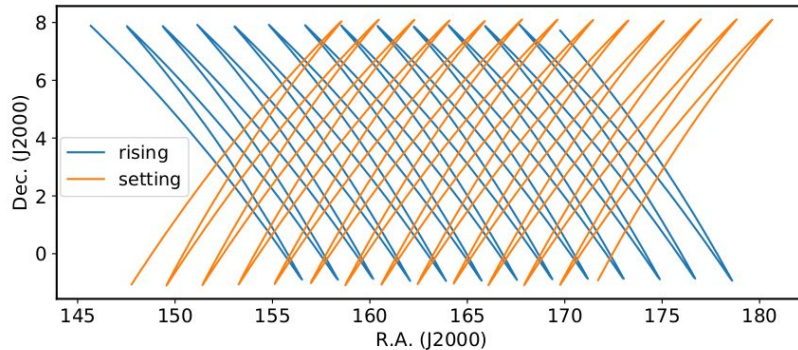




# Intensity Mapping with MeerKAT

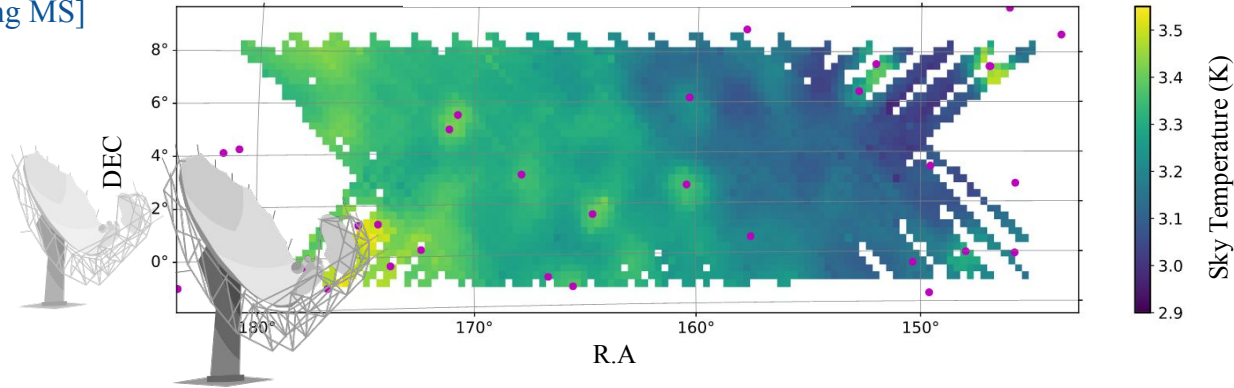


Antennas	All 64 MeerKAT dishes
Observation mode	Single-dish
Frequency range	0.856-1.712 GHz
Frequency resolution	0.2 MHz
Time resolution	2s
Exposure time	1.5hr x 7 scans
Target field	WiggleZ 11hr field ( $10^\circ \times 30^\circ$ )



# MeerKAT observations

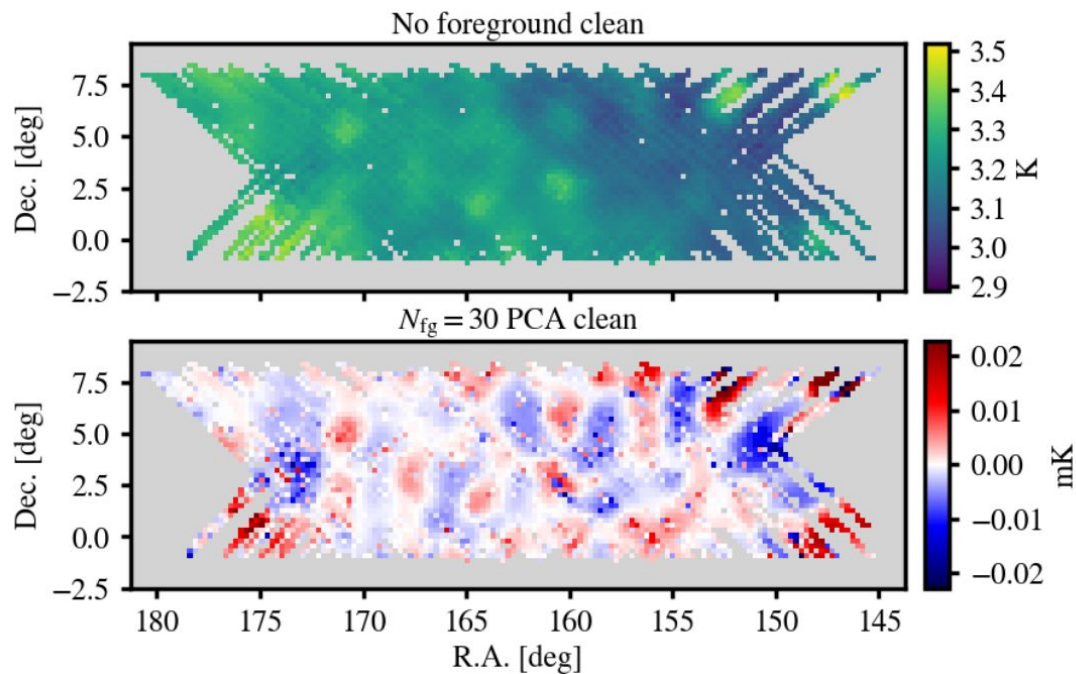
Wang et al. 2021  
[including MS]



**MeerKLASS:** 64 MeerKAT antennas used in **single-dish mode**

- ❑ first successful calibration of **intensity mapping data from MeerKAT**
- ❑ L-band: 850-1700 MHz (4096 channels)

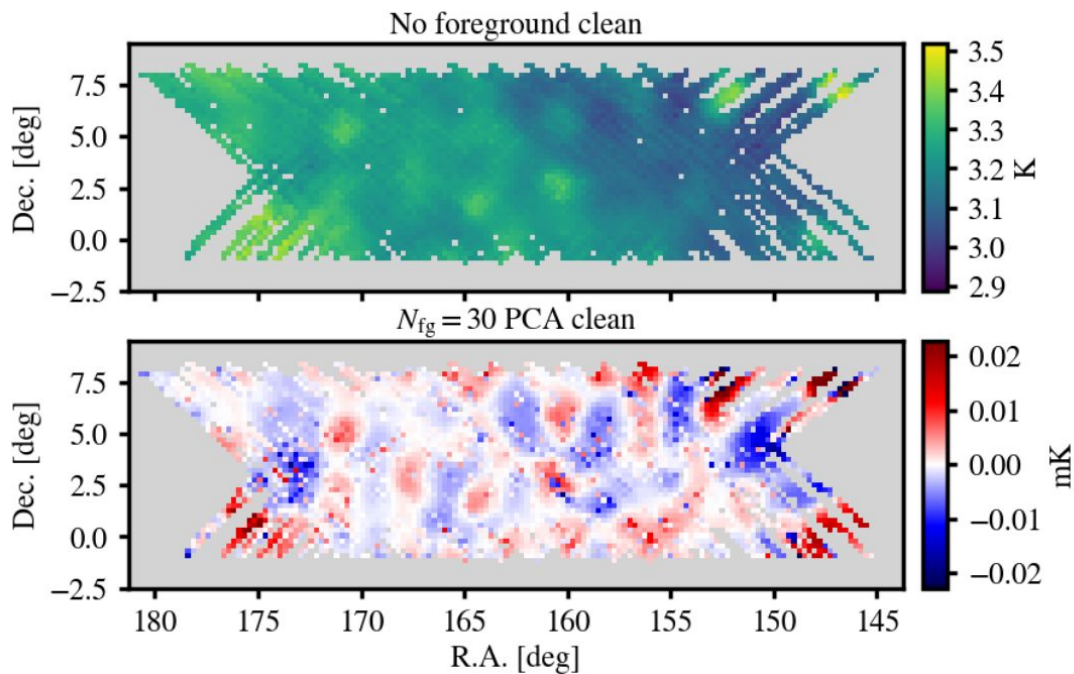
# MeerKLASS results



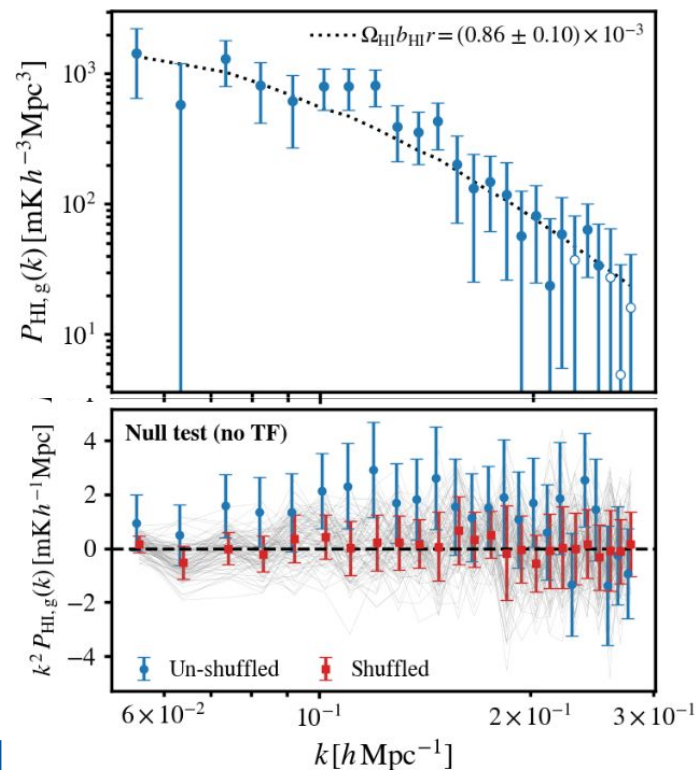
Cunnington et al. 2022 [including MS]



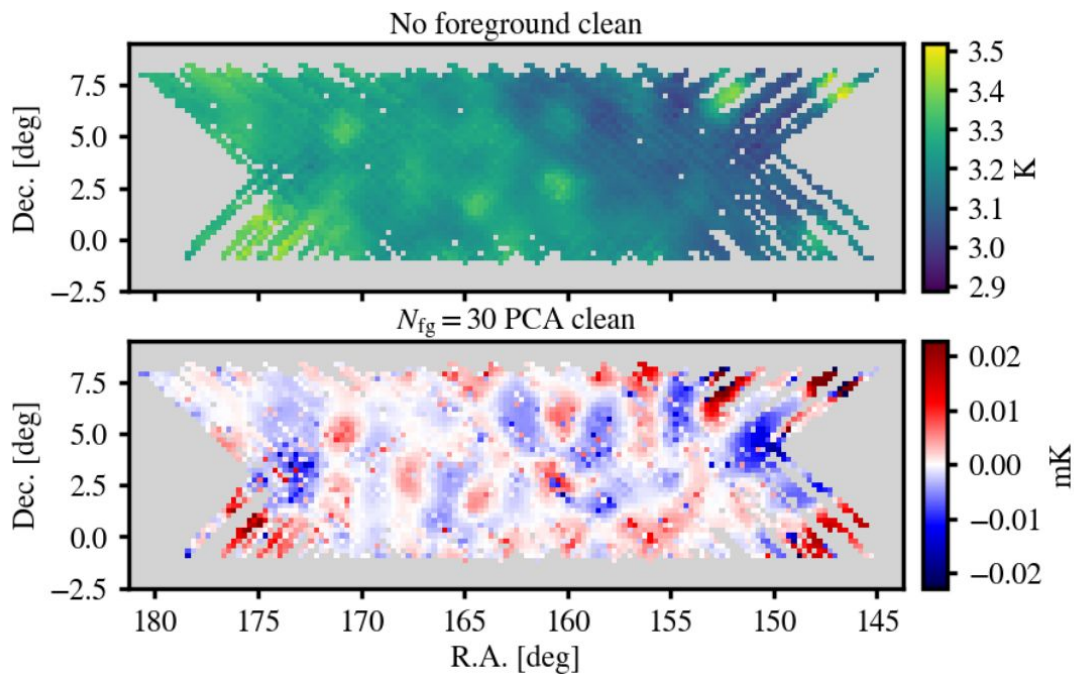
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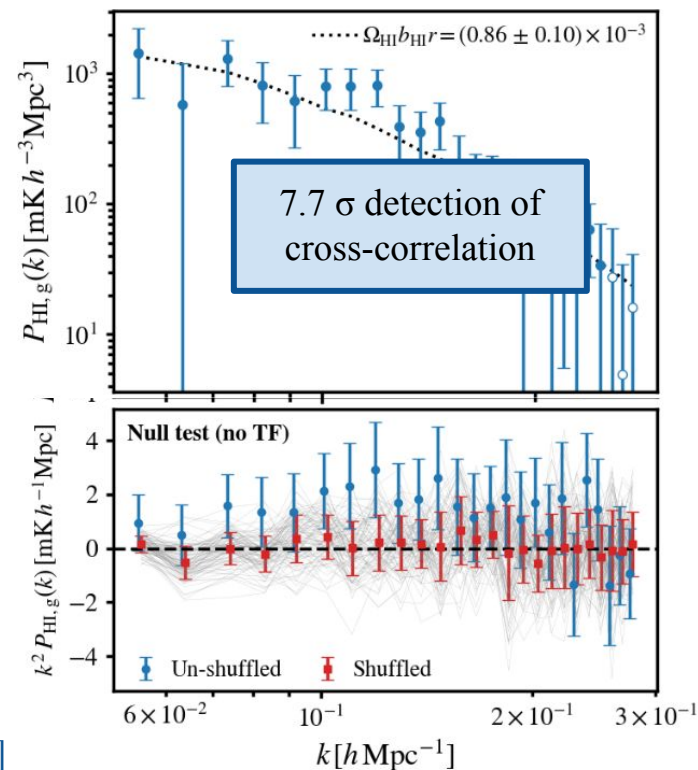
Cunnington et al. 2022 [including MS]



# MeerKLASS results



Cunnington et al. 2022 [including MS]



# In summary

## We have:

21cm intensity mapping data difficult to clean (signal only in cross-correlation)

Simulations that are still not a realistic representation of the actual data

Cleaning methods that have still to be extensively tested with realistic simulations

## We would like:

More and better data

More realistic simulations mimicking the data

More sophisticated cleaning methods tested on more realistic simulations

## Final aim:

A 21cm **(auto) power spectrum detection** validated with realistic simulations and tested with various and robust cleaning methods



# Moving forward

## Data:

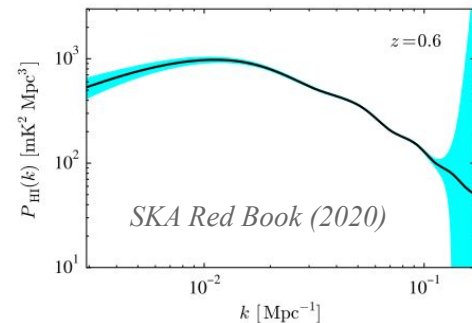
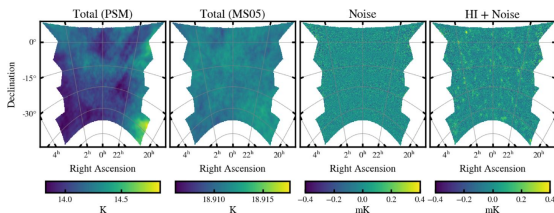
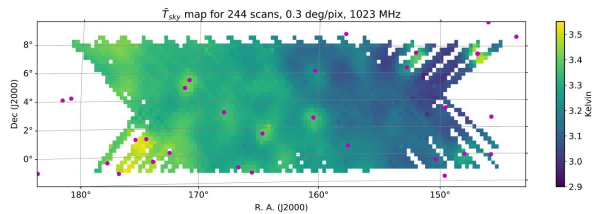
Keep working with pathfinder data (MeerKLASS) to understand the instrument and improve the pipelines

## Simulations:

Improve and refine end-to-end simulations

## Final aim:

An HI (auto) power spectrum detection to extract cosmology and HI properties



- new L band data (41 x 1.5 h)
- UHF band available (higher redshift)

Foreground subtraction challenge  
MS et al. 2022

# Conclusions

- ❑ **The SKA Observatory** will be a powerful machine for **cosmology** with different observables (and their synergies!)
- ❑ Main probes: Weak lensing, Continuum, HI galaxies and HI intensity mapping
- ❑ **Intensity Mapping** surveys are already taking data with SKA precursors
- ❑ **detection in cross-correlation** from MeerKLASS survey x galaxy survey ( $7.7 \sigma$ )
- ❑ analysing new data, improving the simulations
- ❑ **Prepare for the SKAO era and its potential contribution to the knowledge of large-scale structures**

*Please contact me if you are interested in joining the Cosmology SWG!  
[mspinelli@phys.ethz.ch](mailto:mspinelli@phys.ethz.ch)*

# Backup



# Proposed surveys

## *Medium Deep Band 2 with SKA-MID*

5000 deg<sup>2</sup> and 10.000 h integration time  
continuum weak lensing survey and HI galaxy survey out to  $z \sim 0.4$

## *Wide Band 1 with SKA-MID*

20000 deg<sup>2</sup> and 10.000 h integration time  
continuum galaxy survey and HI Intensity Mapping out to  $z \sim 3$

## *Deep SKA-LOW*

100 deg<sup>2</sup> and 5.000 h integration time  
following the EoR survey strategy up to the end of Reionization.

*SKA Red Book (2020)*

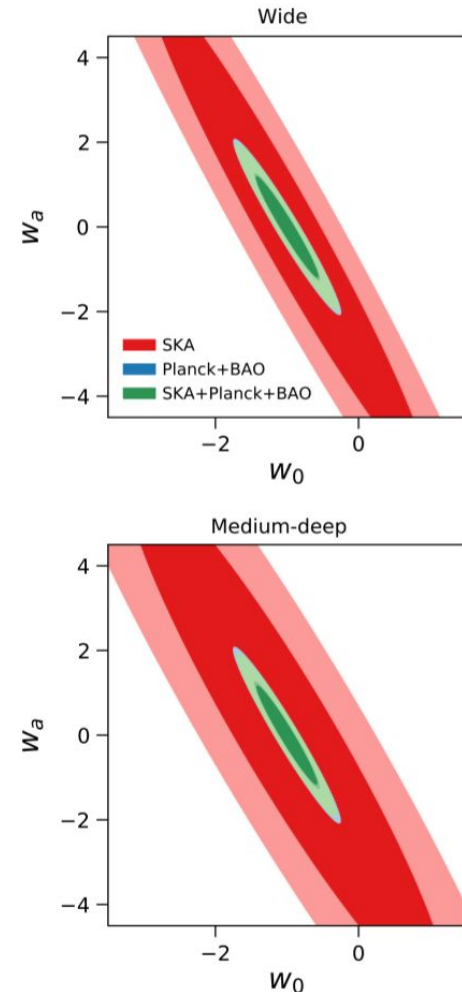
# Continuum

SKA will detect million of galaxies of different types (e.g. SFG, FR1 & FR2, radio-quiet quasars)

**$w_0$ - $w_a$**  constraint not much better than available ones but possible improvement with better knowledge of bias parameters for each population

Medium Deep survey - Band 2  
Wide survey - Band 1

*SKA Red Book (2020)*



# Weak lensing

statistical measurement of the shapes of millions of galaxies

a marginal detection exist

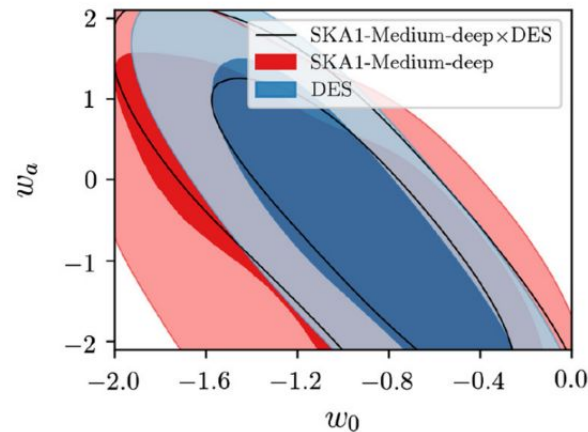
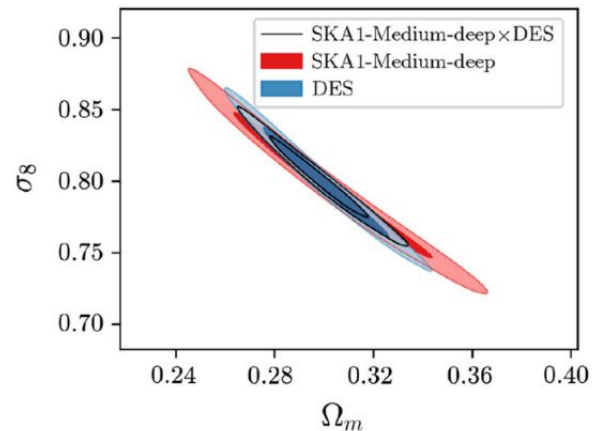
e.g. Chang, Refregier, & Helfand (2004)

**SKA comparable constraints with DES**

cross-correlation constraints retain almost all of the statistical power of the individual experiments

Medium Deep survey - Band 2

SKA Red Book (2020)



# Foreground subtraction challenge

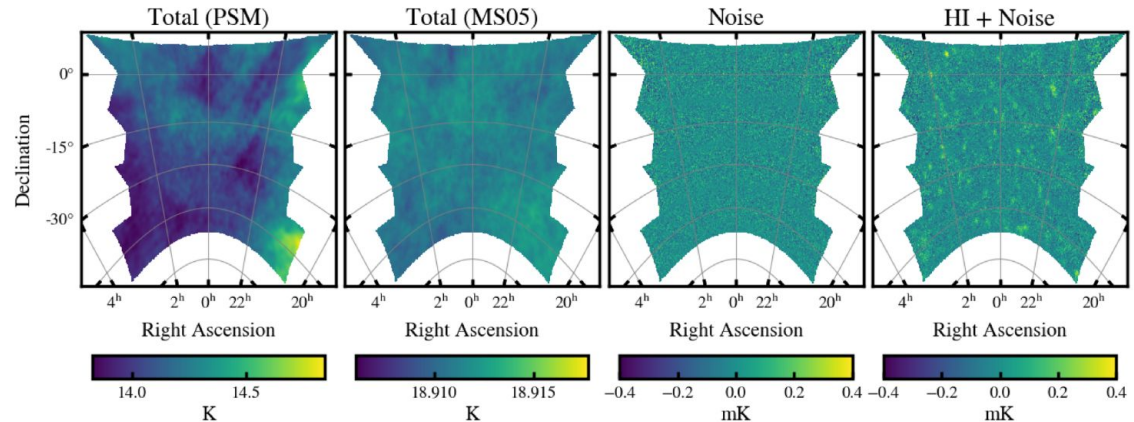
(subset of) SKA IM Focus Group

## Project setup:

- ❑ various foreground models and realistic HI maps
- ❑ **instrumental modeling**  
**MeerKAT-like and SKAO-like**
- ❑ 9 different foreground removal methods (PCA, FastICA, ...)

**Blind challenge** to discover weaknesses and strengths of the various methods

*Isabella Carucci, Steve Cunnington, Ze Fonseca, Stuart Harper, Mel Irfan, Alkistis Pourtsidou, Marta Spinelli, Laura Wolz*



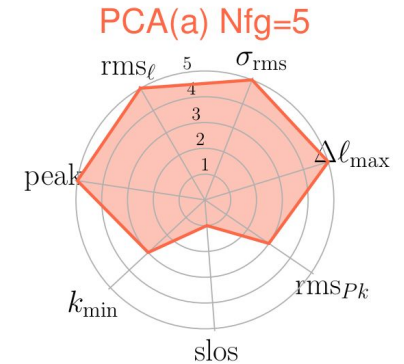
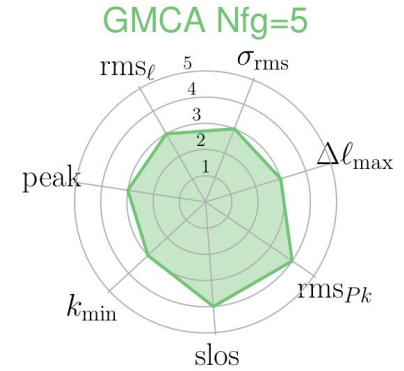
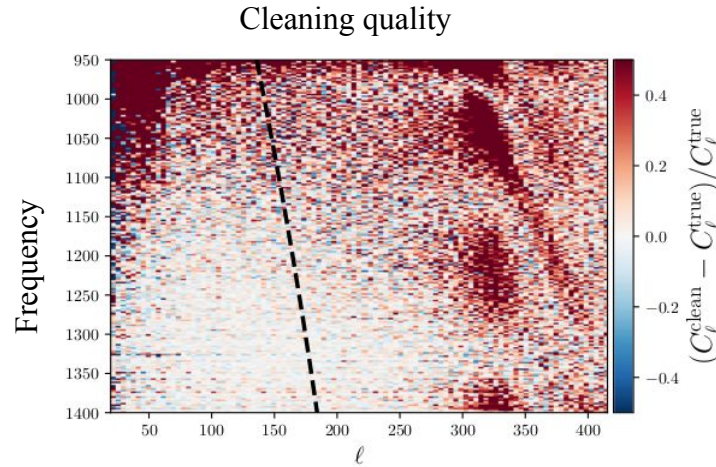
*given IM data now, would your favorite method extract the cosmological signal?*



# Foreground subtraction challenge

- ❑ How much can **instrument/foregrounds coupling** impact the signal reconstruction?
- ❑ definition of statistics and metrics to evaluate the relative performances

**Realistic** instrumental effects inevitably complicate the foreground cleaning



MS et al. 2022

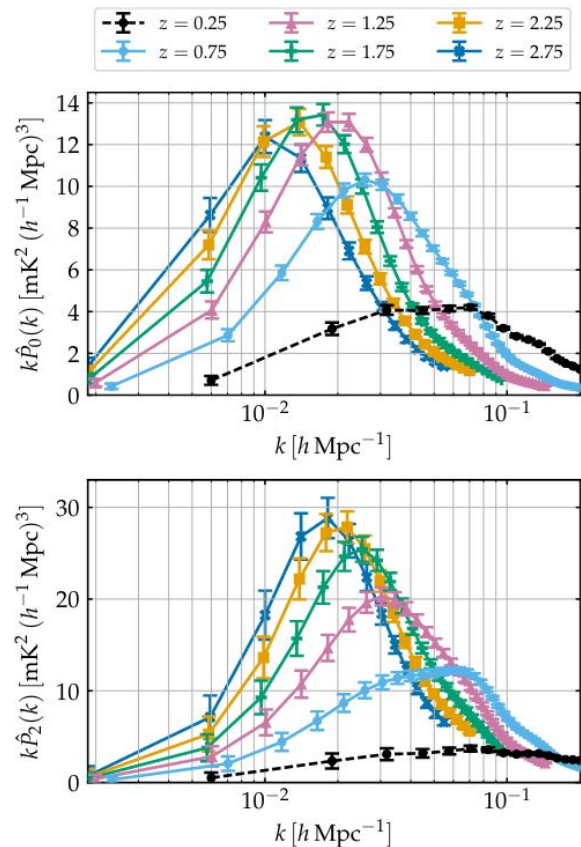
# SKAO forecasts

$$P_{21}(z, k, \mu) = \bar{T}_b^2(z) \left[ b_{\text{HI}}(z) + f(z) \mu^2 \right]^2 P_m(z, k)$$

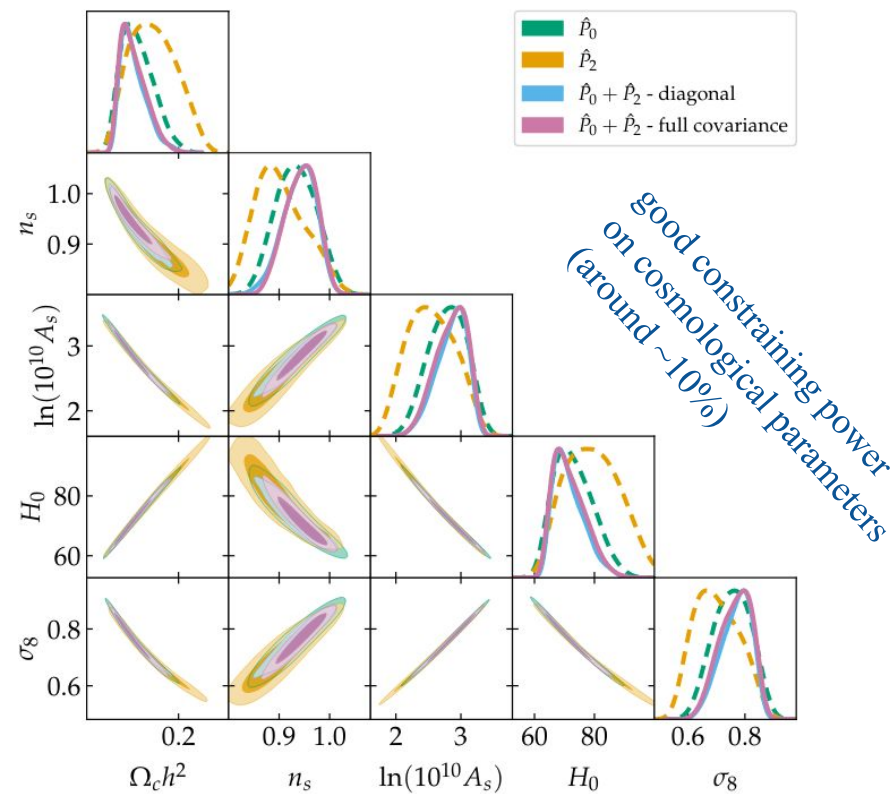
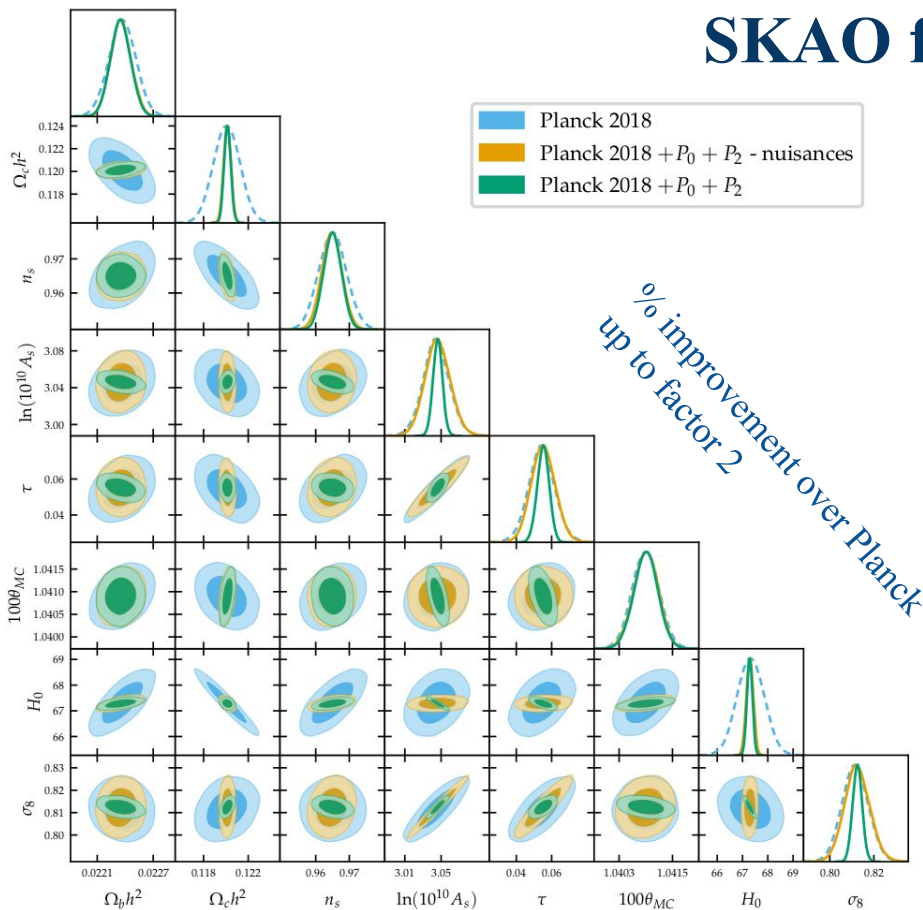
$$P_\ell(z, k) = \frac{(2\ell + 1)}{2} \bar{T}_b^2(z) P_m(z, k) \int_{-1}^1 d\mu \mathcal{L}_\ell(\mu) \left[ b_{\text{HI}}(z) + f(z) \mu^2 \right]^2$$

- ❑ We consider only monopole and quadrupole  $l=0,2$
- ❑ SKA-Mid like observations
  - **tomographic** (6 redshift between 0 and 3)
  - **Single-dish**: beam effect
  - expected noise and sky area

Berti, MS et al. 2022  
[arXiv:2209.07595](https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.07595)

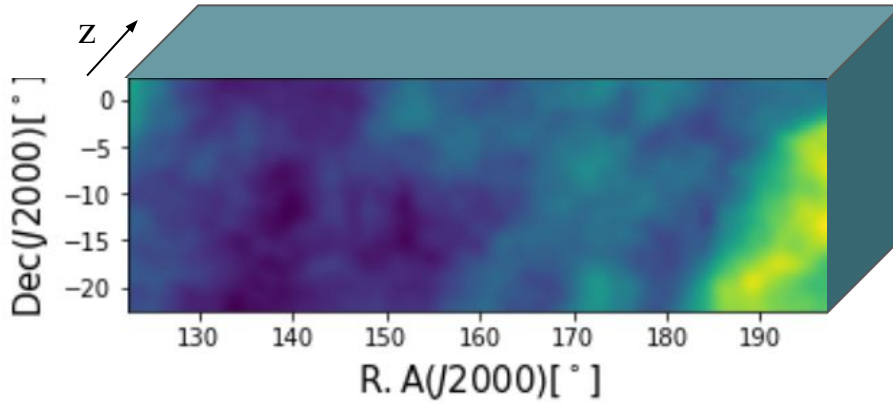


# SKAO forecasts



# A cleaning example

Mock observation “cube”



## Simulation includes:

- 100 channels around redshift 0.5
- Foreground contamination:  
*Synchrotron, Free-free, point sources*
- Gaussian beam
- White noise

$$T = As + n + c$$

$A$  mixing matrix of the foreground sources

noise

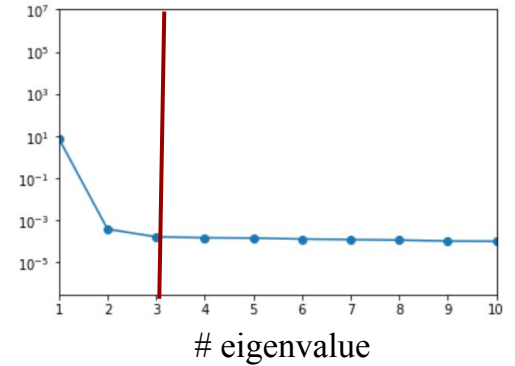
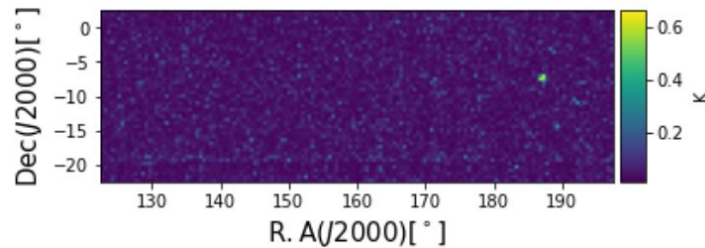
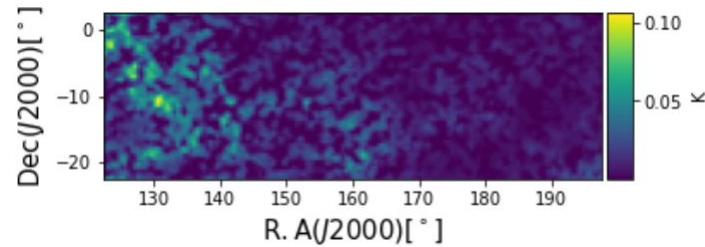
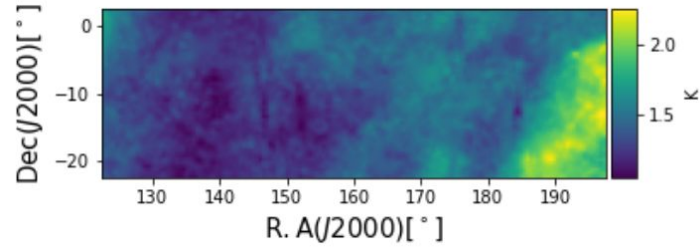
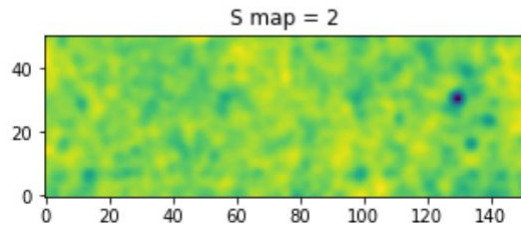
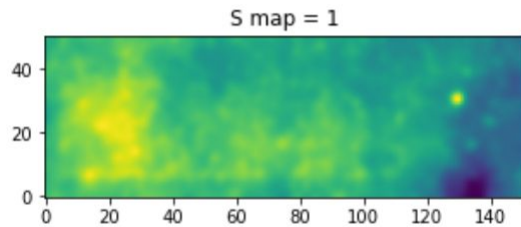
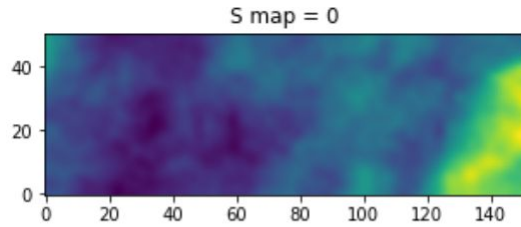
Cosmological signal

## How many sources?

$N_{fg}$  need to be estimated/guessed



# A cleaning example



# A cleaning example

$$\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{T} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}$$



A mixing matrix including only the first Nfg components

